

Message Text

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SUBJECT: CORNERSTONE CEREMONY FOR A NEW REHABILITATION CENTER
AT THE KRAKOW CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL

1. U.S. CONGRESSMAN CLEMENT J. ZABLOCKI (DEMOCRAT-WISCONSIN) FORMALLY LAUNCHED PHASE III OF THE AMERICAN CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL ON WEDNESDAY. BENEATH LARGE AMERICAN AND POLISH FLAGS STOP THE KRAKOW MEDICAL FACILITY, THE AMERICAN LEGISLATOR PRESIDED AT THE CORNERSTONE CEREMONY FOR A NEW 240-BED REHABILITATION CENTER. HALF OF THE 160 MILLION ZLOTY CONSTRUCTION COST FOR THE NEW HOSPITAL WING WILL BE FINANCED BY THE U.S. AGENCY FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT (AID).

2. IN BRIEF REMARKS DELIVERED IN POLISH, THE POLISH-AMERICAN CONGRESSMAN EXPRESSED HIS "DEEP HOPE THAT OUR JOINT PROJECT WILL CONTRIBUTE TO IMPROVEMENT OF HEALTH OF CHILDREN AND WILL STRENGTHEN THE COOPERATION AND PARTNERSHIP BETWEEN OUR TWO PEOPLES " (EXACT QUOTE: "WYRAZIC MOJA GLEBOKA NADZIEJE, ZE NASZ WSPOLNY PROJEKT PRZYCZYNI SIE DO POPRAWY STANU
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ZDROWIA DZIECI I UMOCNI WSPOLPRACE I PRZYJAZN

MIEDZY NASZYMI NARODAMI").

FOLLOWING THE CEREMONY CONGRESSMAN ZABLOCKI TOURED THE 320-BED AMERICAN CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL, WHICH OPENED IN 1965, ALSO WITH SUBSTANTIAL PRIVATE AND PUBLIC ASSISTANCE FROM THE UNITED STATES. DURING STAGE TWO, A RESEARCH WING WAS ADDED TO THE HOSPITAL AND COMPLETED IN 1974, ALSO APRTICIPATING IN THE WEDNESDAY CEREMONY, TO INAUGURATE PHASE THREE WAS U.S. AMBASSADOR R.T. DAVIES, AID DEPUTY ADMINISTRATOR JOHN MURPHY, PRESIDENT OF THE PEOPLE-TO-PEOPLE HEALTH FOUNDATION WILLIAM B. WALSH, AND MARIAN CZARNECKI, CHIEF OF STAFF OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS COMMITTEE. POLISH DIGNITARIES TAKING PART IN THE EVENT INCLUDED KRAKOW MEDICAL ACADEMY RECTOR PROF. TADEUSZ POPIELA AND POLISH VICE MINISTERS OF HEALTH STANISLAW MARCINKOWSKI AND WIESLAW ADAMSKI.

3. AFTER THE CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL PROGRAM, CONGRESSMAN ZABLOCKI WAS AWARDED AN HONORARY DEGREE BY THE ACADEMY SENATE OF THE JAGIELLONIAN UNIVERSITY. ACCOMPANIED BY TRADITIONAL UNIVERSITY PAGEANTRY IN THE HISTORIC "COLLEGIUM MAIUS", THE AMERICAN POLITICAL LEADER WAS HONORED BY THE 600 YEAR OLD POLISH UNIVERSITY FOR HIS 33 YEARS OF PUBLIC SERVICE. UNIVERSITY RECTOR PROF. MIECZYSLAW KARAS NOTED THAT THE HONORARY AWARD HAD SPECIAL MEANING SINCE "IT OCCURS DURING THE CELEBRATION OF THE UNITED STATES BICENTENNIAL". THE KRAKOW EDUCATOR ADDED "I THINK THAT THIS IS ALSO A TRIBUTE EXPRESSED FOR THAT GREAT AND DISTINGUISHED ANNIVERSARY" (EXACT QUOTE: "DZIEJE SIE TO W OKRESIE UROCZYSTOSCI 200-LECIA POWSTANIA STANOW ZJEDNOCZONYCH. MYSLE, ZE JEST TO ROWNIEZ I HOLDEM WYRAZONYM DLA TEJ ZNAKOMITEJ, WIELKIEJ ROCZNICY.")

4. DURING THE AWARD CEREMONY, CONGRESSMAN ZABLOCKI ADDRESSED THE KRAKOW UNIVERSITY COMMUNITY ON "THE CHALLENGES POSED BY MAN'S INGENUITY--HIS INTERACTION WITH THE EARTH'S ENVIRONMENT--AND HIS DESTRUCTIVENESS--(WHICH) MUST BE MET HEAD-ON WITHING UNCLASSIFIED

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THE LIFESPAND OF ONE, OR AT MOST TWO GENERATIONS". THE WISCONSIN CONGRESSMAN CITED OVERPOPULATION, POLLUTION, FOOD SHORTAGES, AND DWINDLING NATURAL RESOURCES AS UNIVERSAL CONCERNS WHICH CEMENT THE INTERDEPENDENCE OF ALL NATIONS. IN RESOLVING THESE PROBLEMS, CONGRESSMAN ZABLOCKI STRESSED "THE NECESITY FOR RAPID AND WHOLESAL ADAPTATION" BY MANKIND. HE ADDED THAT "THE GREATEST BARRIER TO ADAPTATION"

IS THE LEGACY OF "OUTDATED IDEAS". FOR THOSE ENGAGED IN SHAPING OR INFLUENCING PUBLIC POLICY, THE CONGRESSMAN EMPHASIZED, WE NEED "TO SEE THE PROBLEMS TODAY WITHOUT THE BLINKERS OF PREJUDICE, DOGMA AND IGNORANCE. ONLY WHEN THESE SHACKLES HAVE BEEN REMOVED, CAN WE MOVE FORWARD TO MEET THE CHALLENGES BY WHICH WE ARE BESET", HE CONCLUDED.

5. ON WEDNESDAY AFTERNOON, CONGRESSMAN ZABLOCKI HOSTED A LUNCHEON FOR POLISH AND AMERICAN DIGNITARIES AT THE CASTLE RESTAURANT IN PIESKOWA SKALA NEAR KRAKOW. LATER, THE CONGRESSMAN PRESENTED SPECIAL HONOR AWARDS TO THE U.S. CONSULATE STAFF FOR THEIR CONTRIBUTIONS DURING THE VISIT TO KRAKOW LAST JULY BY PRESIDENT FORD.
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